

Notice of Allowability

Application No.

10/037,537

Examiner

Khanh Tran

Applicant(s)

CECCHI ET AL.

Art Unit

2631

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address--

All claims being allowable, PROSECUTION ON THE MERITS IS (OR REMAINS) CLOSED in this application. If not included herewith (or previously mailed), a Notice of Allowance (PTOL-85) or other appropriate communication will be mailed in due course. **THIS NOTICE OF ALLOWABILITY IS NOT A GRANT OF PATENT RIGHTS.** This application is subject to withdrawal from issue at the initiative of the Office or upon petition by the applicant. See 37 CFR 1.313 and MPEP 1308.

1. ☒ This communication is responsive to the Amendment filed on 04/18/2005.
2. ☒ The allowed claim(s) is/are 2-12, which have been renumbered as claims 1-11.
3. ☒ The drawings filed on 02 January 2002 are accepted by the Examiner.
4. ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
 - a) ☐ All b) ☐ Some* c) ☐ None of the:
 1. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
 2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
 3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this national stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

* Certified copies not received: _____.

Applicant has THREE MONTHS FROM THE "MAILING DATE" of this communication to file a reply complying with the requirements noted below. Failure to timely comply will result in ABANDONMENT of this application.
THIS THREE-MONTH PERIOD IS NOT EXTENDABLE.

5. ☐ A SUBSTITUTE OATH OR DECLARATION must be submitted. Note the attached EXAMINER'S AMENDMENT or NOTICE OF INFORMAL PATENT APPLICATION (PTO-152) which gives reason(s) why the oath or declaration is deficient.
 6. ☐ CORRECTED DRAWINGS (as "replacement sheets") must be submitted.
 - (a) ☐ including changes required by the Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948) attached
 - 1) ☐ hereto or 2) ☐ to Paper No./Mail Date _____.
 - (b) ☐ including changes required by the attached Examiner's Amendment / Comment or in the Office action of Paper No./Mail Date _____.
- Identifying indicia such as the application number (see 37 CFR 1.84(c)) should be written on the drawings in the front (not the back) of each sheet. Replacement sheet(s) should be labeled as such in the header according to 37 CFR 1.121(d).
7. ☐ DEPOSIT OF and/or INFORMATION about the deposit of BIOLOGICAL MATERIAL must be submitted. Note the attached Examiner's comment regarding REQUIREMENT FOR THE DEPOSIT OF BIOLOGICAL MATERIAL.

Attachment(s)

1. ☐ Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)
2. ☐ Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)
3. ☐ Information Disclosure Statements (PTO-1449 or PTO/SB/08),
Paper No./Mail Date _____
4. ☐ Examiner's Comment Regarding Requirement for Deposit
of Biological Material
5. ☐ Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152)
6. ☐ Interview Summary (PTO-413),
Paper No./Mail Date _____
7. ☒ Examiner's Amendment/Comment
8. ☒ Examiner's Statement of Reasons for Allowance
9. ☐ Other _____

TESPADET BOGURE
PRIMARY EXAMINER

Art Unit: 2631

1. The Amendment filed on 04/18/2005 has been entered. Claims 2-12 are pending in this Office action.

2. Claims 2-12 are renumbered as claims 1-11.

EXAMINER'S AMENDMENT

3. An examiner's amendment to the record appears below. Should the changes and/or additions be unacceptable to applicant, an amendment may be filed as provided by 37 CFR 1.312. To ensure consideration of such an amendment, it **MUST** be submitted no later than the payment of the issue fee.

The application has been amended as follows:

- Regarding claim 7, in line 4, "8." has been deleted.

Response to Arguments

4. Applicant's arguments, see page 7 of the Amendment, filed on 04/18/2005, with respect to the objection of claims 2-7 have been fully considered and are persuasive. The objection of 2-7 has been withdrawn.

5. The terminal disclaimer filed on 04/18/2005 disclaiming the terminal portion of any patent granted on this application, which would extend beyond the expiration date of U.S. Patent 6,304,106 has been reviewed and is accepted. The terminal disclaimer has been recorded.

Reasons for Allowance

The following is an examiner's statement of reasons for allowance:

6. Regarding claim 2, claim 2 is allowable over prior art of record after Applicants amended claim to include allowable limitations "a first resistor, a first end of said first resistor being coupled to a positive phase output node of CMOS driver" and "a second resistor, a first end of said second resistor being coupled to a second end of said first resistor, and a second end of said second resistor being coupled to a negative phase output of said replica driver" and "a third resistor, a first end of said third resistor being coupled to a negative phase output of CMOS driver" and "a fourth resistor, a first end of said fourth resistor being coupled to a second end of said third resistor, and a second end of said fourth resistor being coupled to a positive phase output of said replica driver". The closest prior art of record, Martin et al. (US 6,507,225 B2) disclosing current mode driver with variable equalization, either singularly or in combination, fail to anticipate or render the above underlined limitations obvious.

7. Regarding claim 8, claim 8 is allowable over the prior art of record since the cited references taken individually or in combination fails to particularly teach a method of receiving signals in a CMOS bi-directional current mode differential link comprising the uniquely distinct steps of "coupling a positive phase output of said data driver to a first end of a first resistor in said resistor-summing network" and "coupling a second end of said first resistor to a first input of said differential amplifier, and further coupling said second end of said first resistor to a first end of a second resistor in said resistor-summing network" and "coupling a second end of said second resistor to a negative phase output of said replica driver" and "coupling a negative phase output of said data driver to a first end of a third resistor in said resistor-summing network" and "coupling a second end of said third resistor to a second input of said differential amplifier, and further coupling said second end of said third resistor to a first end of a fourth resistor in said resistor-summing network" and "coupling a second end of said fourth resistor to a positive phase output of said replica driver". The closest prior art of record, Martin et al. (US 6,507,225 B2) disclosing current mode driver with variable equalization, either singularly or in combination, fail to anticipate or render the above underlined limitations obvious.

Any comments considered necessary by applicant must be submitted no later than the payment of the issue fee and, to avoid processing delays, should preferably accompany the issue fee. Such submissions should be clearly labeled "Comments on Statement of Reasons for Allowance."

Conclusion

8. Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Khanh Tran whose telephone number is 571-272-3007. The examiner can normally be reached on Monday - Friday from 08:00 AM - 05:00 PM.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Mohammad Ghayour can be reached on 571-272-3021. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 703-872-9306.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free).

KCT

TESFALDET BOGURE
PRIMARY EXAMINER